

# History and Perspective on Education of Nikkey-Brazilian Children

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## ACADEMIC EXPERIENCES:

- PhD in Sociology and “Livro Docente”(Post Doctoral) in Education
- Professor of Campinas State University (UNICAMP) Faculty of Education , (from 1987);
- UNESP:S. Paulo State University at Social Sciences Area(1972-1979)
- FVG-EAESP: Getulio Vargas Foundation-Faculty of Business Administration of S.Paulo (1973 and 1984 and 1987)
- University of Tsukuba: Master Program of Area Studies (Latin American Studies) (1997-2000)
- University of Tenri: Brazilian Studies as visiting professor (1994);
- Kyoto University of Foreign Studies as collaborator professor (1994);
- University of Nagoya: Visiting Researcher (1993-1994)

## CURRENT RESEARCH AREA STUDIES:

International Migration: Education, Culture, Labor; Teacher Education, Culture and Society;

Globalization, Latin American and Asian Culture Relationship

## PUBLICATIONS:

**-Where Brazilians are going to? Brazilian Immigrants in Japan**, UNICAMP Press/Japan Foundation, Campinas, S. P., March/1999 , 236p. ; 2o.edition (revised) May/2003

**-Nihon Shakai to Burajirujin Imin**, Akashi Shoten, Tokyo, 2000, 208p.

**-Brazilian Migrants Social and Cultural Networks between Brazil and Japan: Movement and Settlement**, in Population Movement in the Modern World VII, JCAS, National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka, 2003;

**-The Education of Teachers in Japan: Recent Questions**, in The Education of Teachers: an International Experience under the Brazilian Eyes, Gorgen,P. and Saviani D.(editors), Editora Autores Associados/NUPEES, Campinas, 1998 and 2000 (2o.edition),p.83-113



## Summary

### I.Nikkey Brazilian Social Profile

Who are Nikkey Brazilians and their children?

Nikkey people in Brazil, descendants from Japanese immigrants since the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, have currently become a heterogeneous and complex group. In the past, Japanese migrants had wanted to go back to Japan. But they settled in Brazil permanently, because of their own businesses and for the citizenship of the children.

Before the 1950's, Nikkey Brazilians had been dedicated to agricultural and business activities, where they could contribute to the expansion of those sectors and cultural aspects. Today, many Nikkey Brazilians have a high level of education at different degrees in areas of activities such as sciences, business, art and politic. Other large parts are working in many technical and service areas.

When Japan needed foreign workers, entrepreneurs selected Nikkey people because they were from Japanese descendants, and they thought they were similar to themselves. Nikkey were educated into the Brazilian (Western) culture with different levels of Japanese cultural influences. So, Nikkey had to face everyday life challenges in the “unknown Japan”

### II.Cultural and Educational Background of Nikkey Brazilian Youth

If in the past Nikkey-Brazilian youth have had a great influence by Japanese culture because the parent's effort to defend it, today the Western influx is stronger than Japanese influences. Therefore, Nikkey are culturally very different to Japanese people even though they are not similar to other Brazilians. And among the Nikkey there are different kinds and levels of lifestyle, culture and education.

Nikkei children have been in Japan because of their parents' labors. In Japan, they have been affected by different influences. The different cultural, social and educational context often put them in troubled situations at school, like learning and adaptation difficulties, as well as language and cultural misunderstandings. Increasing Brazilian schools in Japan is not going to be able to attend to the demand easily, because the high costs and a still weak presence of this type of school in Japan.

### **III. Trends and Perspectives of Nikkei Education**

- Increasing amount of young Brazilians in Japan.
- Increasing % of young Brazilian "dropping out" of school.
- Cultural diversity, prejudice and discrimination still continue as a problem.
- Are the contents, methods and organization of both types of schools (Japanese and Brazilian) appropriate to educate migrant children "coming and going" between Brazil and Japan?
- Limits and actions by both Brazilian and Japanese governments, universities, NGOs or other groups for appropriate educational politics.